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Zoellick Fellowship in Social Entrepreneurship

Sept. 19, 2013

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.— Illinois Wesleyan alumnus Todd Zoellick, Class of 2000, has donated funds to allow the Action Research Center (ARC) to offer the Zoellick Fellowship in Social Entrepreneurship to IWU students.

Students can fill out an application for this competition on the website www.iwu.edu/action/zoellick.html and applications are due by Friday, September 27 at 5 p.m. Students are welcome to stop by the ARC located on the first floor of the Center for Liberal Arts (205 Beecher St., Bloomington) during drop-in hours to discuss their application.

The objective of the fellowship is to have students, of any major or concentration, devise a business plan that addresses a local, national or global community need or social problem. The goal is for students to understand what areas of the community need improvement and to create a solution to help solve these problems. Participants can work individually or in groups to draft their business plan that will make a positive change in today's society.

The Zoellick Fellowship is a competition for which three to five finalists will be chosen to present their business idea to a panel of judges, similar to the situation of the ABC show *"Shark Tank."* The presentations will occur on October 28 at 7 p.m. ARC will award the winner \$1,500 towards bringing his or her business idea to life. Along with the IWU Business Administration Department, ARC will assist the winner with planning for further business development, additional funding, grant writing and marketing. The winner will also have the chance to meet with various business leaders in the community.

In April of 2014, the winner will present the fully developed business plan at the ARC Wrap-Up Event.

Todd Zoellick, of the greater Chicago area, is the founder and president of Zoellick Enterprises, LLC, an organization that works to provide more educational opportunities for K-12 students nationally and globally. He is also the senior advisor to Atlantic Research Partners, a firm that works on ways to improve academic success and teaching methods for schools nationwide.

For any additional information about the Zoellick Fellowship, contact ARC Coordinator Cameron Blossom at cblossom@iwu.edu.

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